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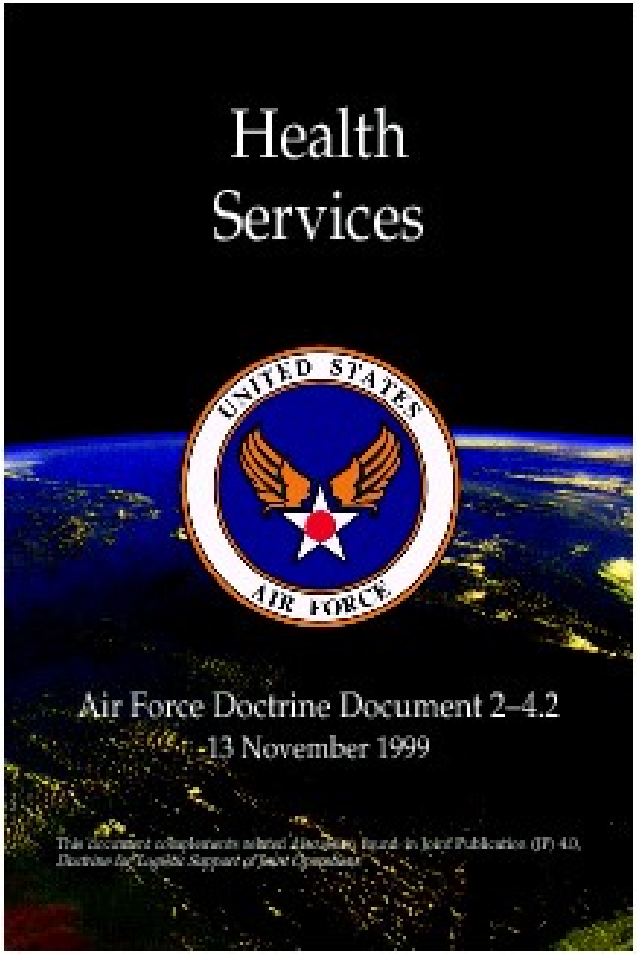
Air Force Doctrine for Health Services



- Air Force Doctrine Document (AFDD) 2-4.2
  - Revised 11 Dec 02
- Operational Doctrine
- Officially sanctioned AF position on how to employ AFMS capability

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Foundational Doctrine Statements

- The AFMS, through the major commands, organizes, trains, and equips medical forces to provide rapid response in support of COMAFFOR and unified combatant commanders' broad range of missions; and manages peacetime health services.
- Active, guard, and reserve medical forces should be organized, trained, and equipped into one seamless team thereby optimizing medical readiness capability and total force utilization. It is through this medically ready force that the AFMS provides commanders with medical capabilities of the right size, right skill mix, at the right place, and at the right time. The capability of a unit type code (UTC) should be the same regardless of which component is providing that UTC.
- Speed and the global nature of their reach and perspective is what distinguish the AFMS core competencies from the core competencies of other Services.
- Force Health Protection, a proactive doctrine, is a "total life-cycle" health support system that addresses all health-related threats affecting the combat force and the supporting community before, during, and after deployment.
- Commanders and AFMS leadership must continue to focus on human performance, sustainment, and enhancement of air and space operators in all operational environments.
- The HQ AFFOR Surgeon is a member of the COMAFFOR special staff and does not exercise command authority or direct control over medical forces, but provides a planning, coordination, and oversight function.
- If no Expeditionary Medical Support or Air Force Theater Hospital component is present, the senior medical officer (e.g., SME, IDMT, etc.) present will be responsible for coordinating health service support activities.

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Foundational Doctrine Statements (cont'd)

- Deployable modular aeromedical evacuation units provide the interface between the ground-based expeditionary medical contingency support units and the critical care capable aeromedical evacuation system.
- When the AFFOR theater medical concept of operations is developed, planners must consider the risk of NBC attack and the increased burden on medical infrastructure. The same building block approach should be used where medical NBC-specific assets are laid in over conventional medical assets.
- In domestic support operations, AFMS assets, which are able to rapidly deploy and establish capability, provide crucial care to those impacted by a disaster or emergency. During domestic support operations, military forces always respond in support of a lead federal agency.
- Air Force health services have been, and will continue to be, used in foreign humanitarian assistance roles as a primary instrument of action.
- The purpose of medical intelligence is to conserve the fighting strength of friendly forces; support policy formulation, strategic and medical planning, and tactical operations; and to assess foreign health care systems in both military and civilian sectors.
- The medical threat estimate should help direct decision-making about the selection of, and placement of forces into, a deployment site.
- The expeditionary medical logistics system, designed and executed to provide support and sustainment to Aerospace Expeditionary Force (AEF) forces, provides tailored logistics packages to the deployed medical unit by utilizing a predetermined supply chain.
- Competency (e.g., initial education, credentials, certifications) and currency (recent experience practicing in the area of competency) are basic fibers of readiness woven throughout medical readiness education and training.

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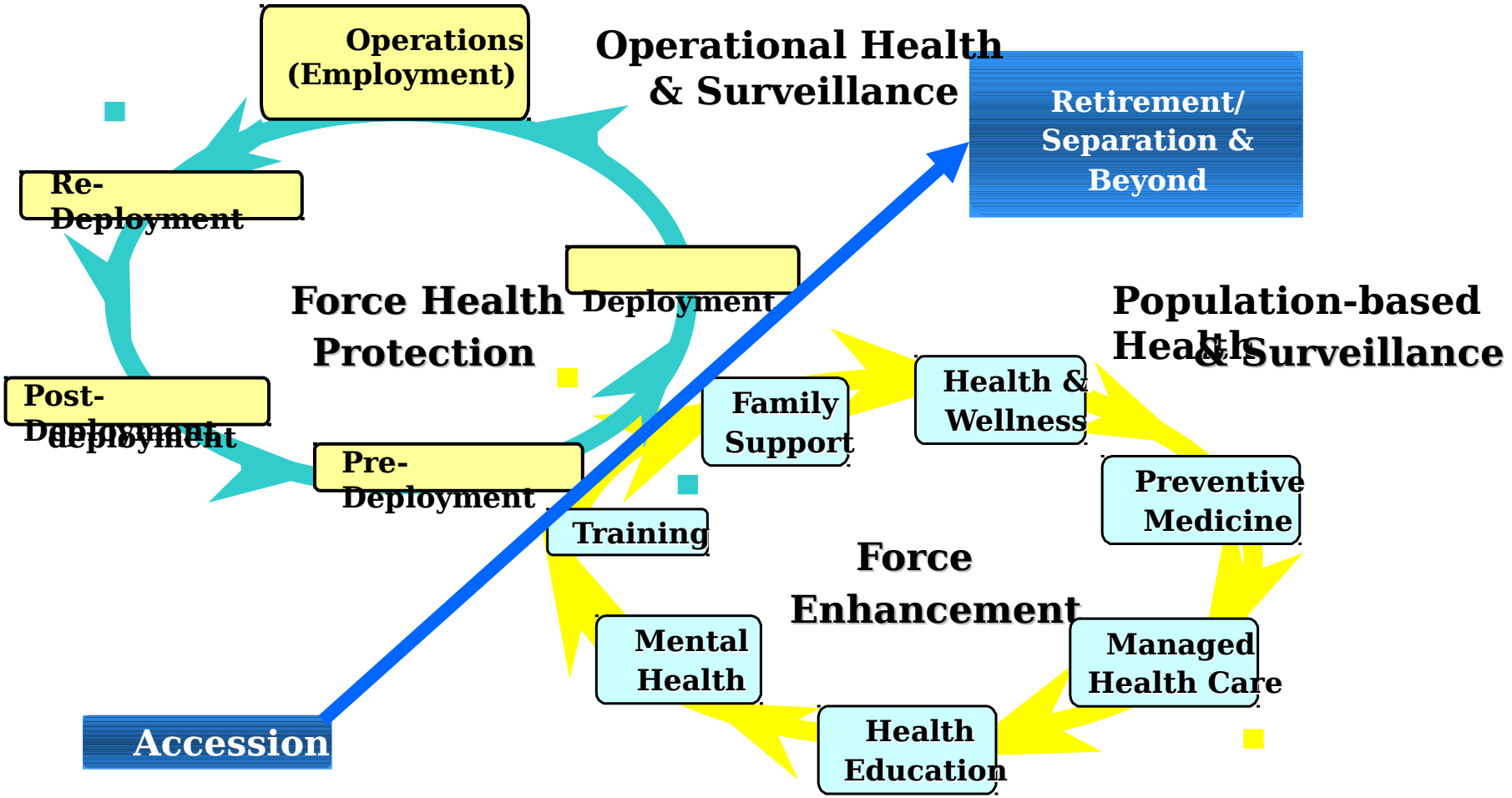
Force Health Protection: "Total Life-Cycle" Health Support System



An Expeditionary AFMS Supports Full Spectrum Operations

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Houston

Somalia

Enduring Freedom

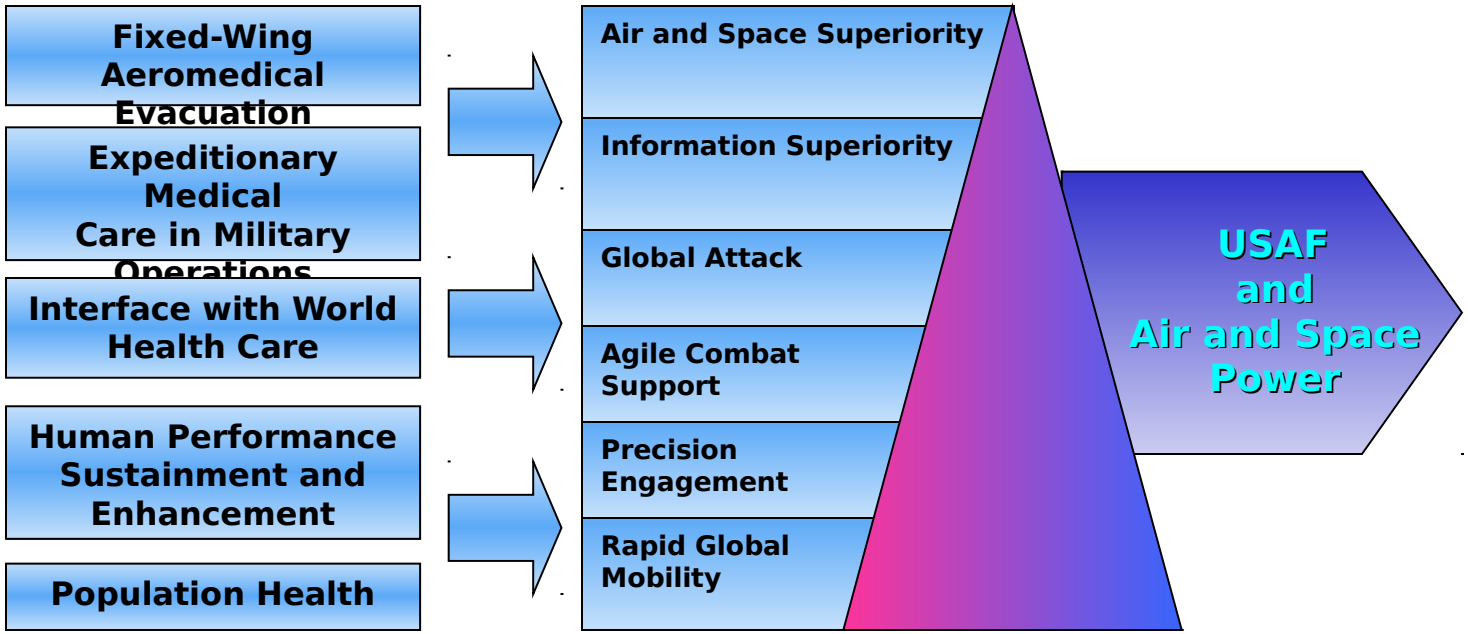
Disaster Response | Humanitarian Assistance | Terrorist Response | Peace Keeping | Homeland Defense | Major Conflict

Full Spectrum Operations

El Salvador HA

East Timor HA/PK

Kosovo


Fixed-Wing Aeromedical Evacuation
Expeditionary Medical Care in Military Operations
Interface with World Health Care
Human Performance Sustainment and Enhancement
Population Health
Air and Space Superiority
Information Superiority
Global Attack
Agile Combat Support
Precision Engagement
Rapid Global Mobility
USAF and Air and Space Power

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Continuum of Casualty Care And Management

First Responders (LEVEL 1)

CASEVAC

FORWARD SURGERY (LEVEL 2)

AEROMEDICAL EVACUATION INTRA-THEATER

Theater Hospital (LEVEL 3)

AEROMEDICAL EVACUATION INTER-THEATER

Definitive Care (LEVELS 4 and 5)

ESSENTIAL CARE CAPABILITY

EN ROUTE CARE

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Aerospace Medical Contingency Ground Support System

- **The AFMS Aerospace Medical Contingency Ground Support System represents the cornerstone of medical support to AEF forces deployed in any worldwide contingency.**
- **The mission of the Aerospace Medical Contingency Ground Support System is to rapidly deploy and provide forward stabilization, primary care, dental services, force health protection, and to prepare air and space expeditionary forces and/or civilian casualties (as appropriate) for aeromedical evacuation.**
- **System components deploy in various combinations to support a specific theater/regional population size and deployment scenario. Medical support rapidly deploys in a modular, incremental, and interoperable manner, using components as building blocks to support the military operation.**
- **The AFMS provides a tiered approach towards flowing in medical capability and a tailored response that is driven by mission, threat scenario, airlift availability, and population at risk.**

The Tiered and Tailored Respons

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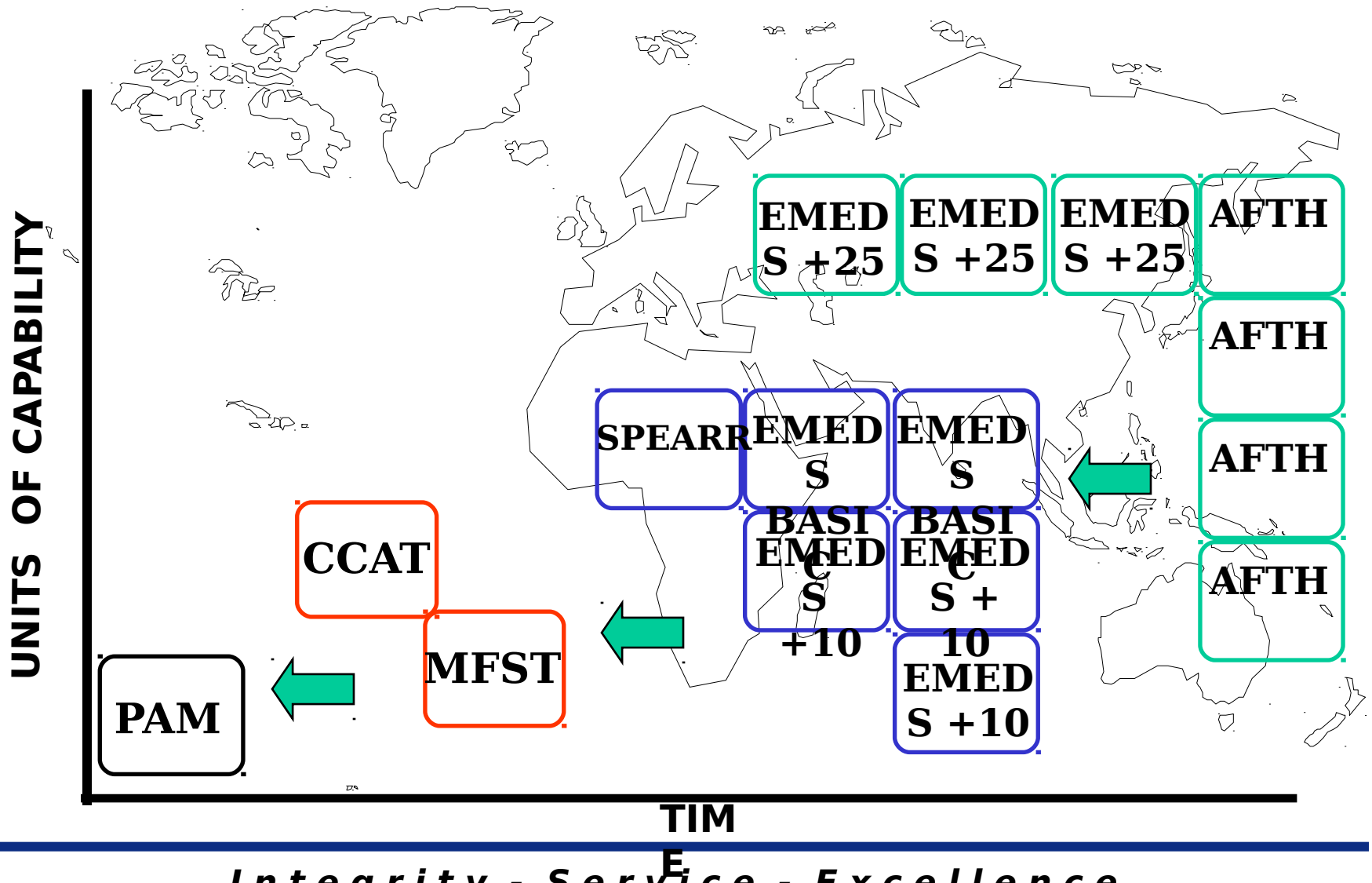

Tiered and Tailored Response - "Covering the 'Red Wedge'"

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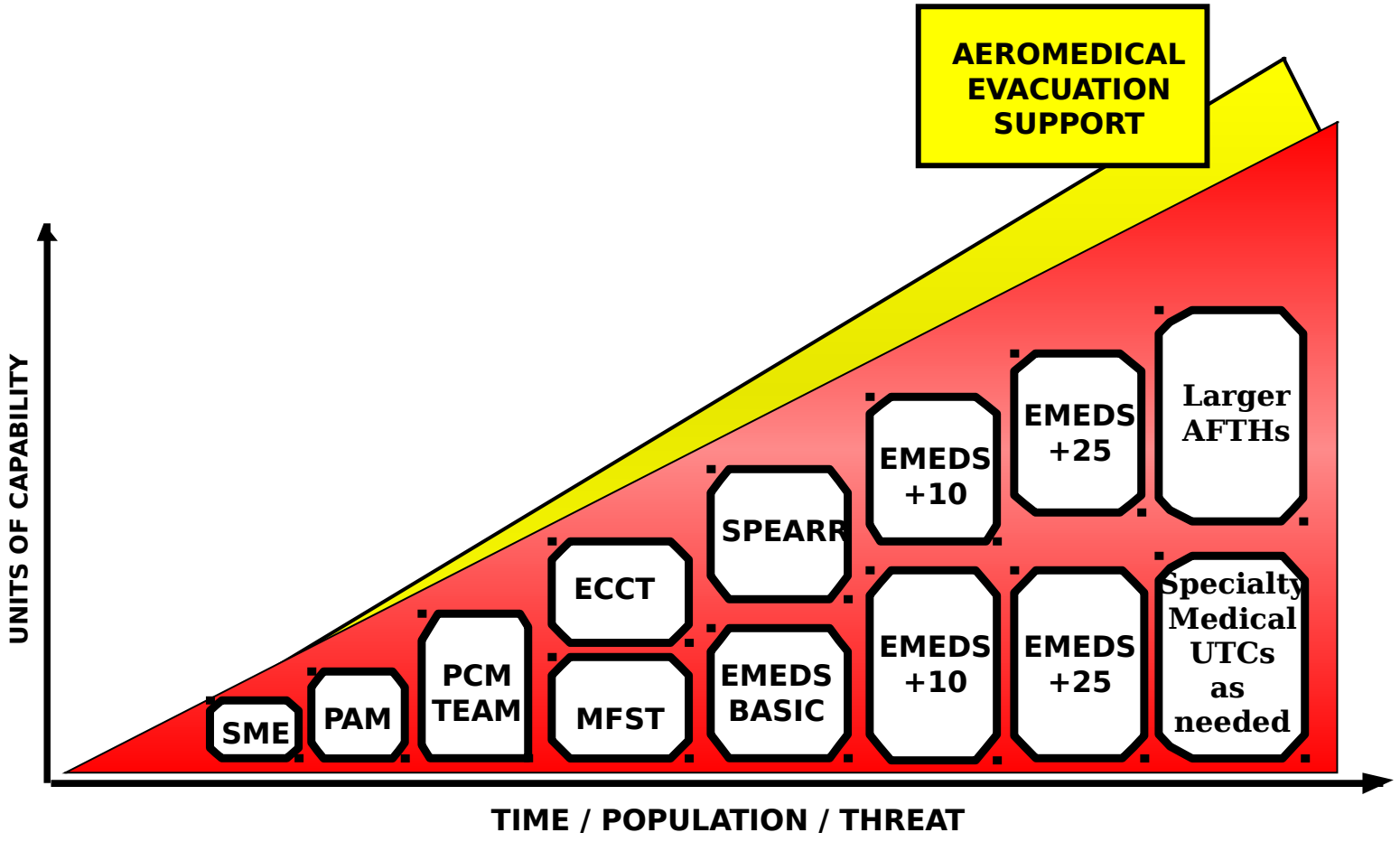

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Domestic Support Operations

- The AFMS expeditionary medical system, while primarily designed to meet its wartime mission, is easily adaptable for civil disaster response.
- The AFMS has identified rapid response resources that can provide medical capability to support domestic operations.
- Following the “Red Wedge” construct, AFMS assets would expand existing civilian capabilities, by either collocating with civilian facilities or establishing a facility where needed.